









# Jordan Weekly Calendar

**COLUMN** is a weekly listing, without charge, of events taking place in Amman and other parts of Jordan which the public is interested in knowing about or participating in. Each Friday edition of this paper, the listing covers seven days, starting from Friday morning and ending the following evening. Events included are cultural activities (concerts, art exhibits, etc.); cultural centre films, cine club films, video-tape programmes and documentaries; sports; special occasion festivals; etc.; excursions of historical or archaeological interest; and club activities that are open to the public or are not open to exclusive membership.

Events listed in Jordan Weekly Calendar will also be listed in "What's Going On" on the day of the event. This listing is your choice.

Interested in having their events listed in this column are requested to contact the Jordan Times, or send descriptive (preferably by hand), during the previous week until 11 a.m. Photographs and art work are also welcome.

(Week of May 11 - 17)

## EXHIBITIONS

**CHILDREN'S BOOKS:** The exhibit of children's books organised by the Children's Club ends Friday evening at the Palace of Culture. The exhibit goes on tour to other parts of Jordan on May 12.

**ART GALLERY:** Ministry of Culture and Youth, an exhibition by Zaki Shafiq and Yasser Dwaik is on display until May 12.

**PROVINCE IN FRANCE:** Exhibition of photos on the theme of Provence in France is on display at the French Cultural Centre until the end of the month.

**GOETHE INSTITUTE:** The Goethe Institute, in cooperation with the Ministry of Culture and Youth, presents an exhibition of watercolours by Jan Cejka entitled "Wild Flowers of Jordan." The exhibit is open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. except on Friday and Sunday. It will last May 19.

**BRITISH COUNCIL:** The British Council presents an exhibition of art and sculptures by two Jordanian artists, Aziz Ammouri and Nimri. The exhibit is open from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. except on Friday and Sunday. It will last May 22.

## FILMS

**LA VIE FAUBOURG:** The French Cultural Centre presents a three-part film "La vie faubourg de Gauguin." The first part is at 7:30 p.m., and the second and third parts will be at the same time on Saturday and Sunday respectively.

**AMERICAN CENTRE:** The American Centre presents two films at 5:30 p.m. The first, "Golden Age of Comedy," draws lights in the history of Hollywood comedy. The second, "The 12 O'Clock High," is the 1950 classic "12 o'clock High" starring Gregory Peck, Hugh Morrow and Dean Jagger. Both are repeated at the same times on Tuesday and Wednesday. Entry tickets should be picked up at the centre ahead of time.

## DOCUMENTARY FILMS

**PROVINCE IN FRANCE:** The French Cultural Centre continues its series on Provence with two documentaries starting at 7:30 p.m. The first is entitled "Memoires de Provence," and the second is "Le Tour du Mont St. Michel." Both films will be repeated at the same time on Wednesday.

## LECTURES

**ARCHAEOLOGY:** The Friends of Archaeology present a slide-lecture by Dr. Walter Rast, who will speak about the archaeological site of Jericho (located near the "Ishtar" of the Bible) and of which he is co-director. The lecture takes place at the Arts Centre at 6:30 p.m.

**SPANISH CULTURE:** The Spanish Cultural Centre presents a lecture by Spanish professor Jesus Riosalido, who will talk about the book he has written in Spanish. The book in question is "Isa Na'uri's Ribbon" (in Arabic). The lecture begins at 7:00 p.m.

## LOCAL CHANGE RATES TODAY'S WEATHER

304.00/306.00	Temperatures will be around normal with northwesterly moderate winds. In Aqaba there will be hazy weather with northerly fresh winds and calm seas.
627.00/631.00	
160.30/161.30	
177.30/178.40	
69.50/69.90	
35.90/36.10	
142.80/143.70	
147.50/148.40	
69.10/69.50	

Overnight	Daytime
low	high
Amman	14 28
Aqaba	21 37
Deserts	16 32
Jordan Valley	19 35

## AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

COMPANY	Par Value	Volume Traded	Last Buying Offer	Last Selling Offer	Closing Price
Petroleum Co.	JD 5.000	1,558	6.690	6.720	6.690
Textile Factories	JD 10.000	2,421	14.500	14.500	14.500
Pharmaceutical Co.	JD 5.000	736	22.650	23.000	23.000
Bank	JD 1.000	1,170	1.170	1.200	1.170
Bank	JD 1.000	2,435	1.470	1.490	1.470
Bank	JD 1.000	2,855	1.010	1.020	1.010
Cardboard Factories	JD 1.000	1,960	1.400	1.420	1.410
Bank	JD 1.000	247	0.810	0.850	0.850
Bank	JD 10.000	570	11.400	11.700	11.400
Bank	JD 5.000	9,815	7.550	7.550	7.550
Bank	JD 5.000	656	—	—	8.000
Bank	JD 5.000	680	6.800	6.900	6.800

e traded, Thursday, May 10: JD 25,163					
er of shares traded: 1921					
nt Development Bonds					
	Par Value	Volume Traded	Number Traded	Year of Maturity	Sell Price
ne traded: JD 1,853	JD 5.000	1,853	370	1980	5.010
er of bonds traded: 370					

## Conservation draft law readied

# 10 national parks proposed for Jordan

By Thomas Cromwell  
Special to the Jordan Times

**AMMAN**—There is a movement afoot to create national parks in Jordan. A proposed wildlife conservation act has just been completed and has a good chance of being adopted as the first law of its type in Jordan.

The World Wildlife Fund (WWF) is in the process of completing a study on "Development of Wildlife Conservation in Jordan." The study suggests the creation of as many as ten national parks and includes details of possible locations for them and the legislation needed to establish them in conformity with international wildlife conservation criteria.

The organisation that is primarily responsible for matters related to wildlife conservation in Jordan is the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN), with offices at the Fifth Circle, Jabal Amman.

The society's President, Mr. Anis Mousher, told the Jordan Times that in a recent conversation he held with Prime Minister Mudar Badran the premier was very much interested in the national parks project and wanted to see action taken on it as soon as possible.

Although RSCN is a private organisation, it serves a semi-official function in that it is authorised by the government to issue hunting licenses, to control duck hunting at Azraq and to run the Shaumari Wildlife Reserve near

Azraq, at present the only one of its kind in Jordan. The society is financed primarily by a yearly government grant and aid from WWF.

The society took over the Shaumari site from the Ministry of Agriculture in 1975 and turned it into a reserve which received its first animals—Arabian oryx and gazelles—in 1978. The government has agreed to expand the reserve's area from the present 22 square kilometres to 300 square kilometres, and has allocated a second area, this time in the Azraq oasis itself, to be made into the Azraq Wetland Reserve.

The man who has been largely responsible for the execution of conservation studies and the training of reserve staff in Jordan is Mr. John Clarke, a British zoologist sent here by WWF in September 1975 to be project leader for Jordan. Before coming to Jordan Mr. Clarke was in charge of national parks in Zambia. He has a total of 14½ years experience with Zambian and other African reserves.

He told the Jordan Times that although Shaumari does meet international criteria for a game reserve and is to be put on the U.N. list of reserves next year, there is no legislation that gives it legal status. He also pointed out that the use of the title "national park" at a few sites in Jordan was misleading because these are not the real thing, there being no law for their creation.

Mr. Clarke explained that the theory behind the creation of national parks is the preservation

of native plant and animal species and of every type of land form in a country. In Jordan there are 16 land forms. To preserve these, Mr. Clarke has proposed the following locations as suitable sites for national parks: Wadi Rajil (200 square kilometres) in Azraq where the land is predominantly composed of granite formations, basalt and limestone hamada; the central desert in the vicinity of Bayir; the southern desert in Wadi Rum; two in escarpment country—the first near Petra in Wadi Araba and the second bordering the Dead Sea in Wadi Mujib; and one in the northern oak forests near Ajloun.

Two other areas where parks may be located are the eastern desert, near H4, and on the border between desert and coastal Mediterranean land types, such as in the Jordan Valley.

The present WWF study has four purposes: to propose government policy and draw up a tentative wildlife act; to develop plans for national parks all over Jordan in pursuance of this policy; to design an organisational structure to operate the parks once they are set up; and to educate the public in the importance of conservation so as to create the right public attitude before the parks are actually set up.

The first stage of this programme was completed this week when Mr. Clarke, in cooperation with the Environmental Law Centre in Bonn—run by WWF's sister organisation, the IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources)—finished the draft for the proposed act after one year of work. The act is written for reserves but it would be the same for national parks if the latter designation is chosen. The RSCN approved it at their last board of directors meeting, and it now has to be translated into Arabic and sent to the appropriate ministries to be checked and modified if necessary. If all goes well, it will then be submitted to the cabinet. Mr. Mousher estimates that this process will take at least six months.

The second stage of the project is what Mr. Clarke is presently devoting most of his time to. As well as drawing up detailed maps and reports on the areas he is proposing as sites suitable for national parks, he has also

responded to requests to aid in training personnel at Shaumari and writing a marine pollution act for Aqaba.

He has not yet begun work on an organisational structure to operate national parks but he said that either a government agency or a private organisation can serve in this capacity. "In Kenya, for example, the national parks were run quite successfully by a private organisation before their supervision was taken over by a government agency."

A public awareness programme was begun last September when a campaign was launched by the RSCN aided by WWF and in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and the mass media to

educate Jordanians (especially children) in the importance of conservation.

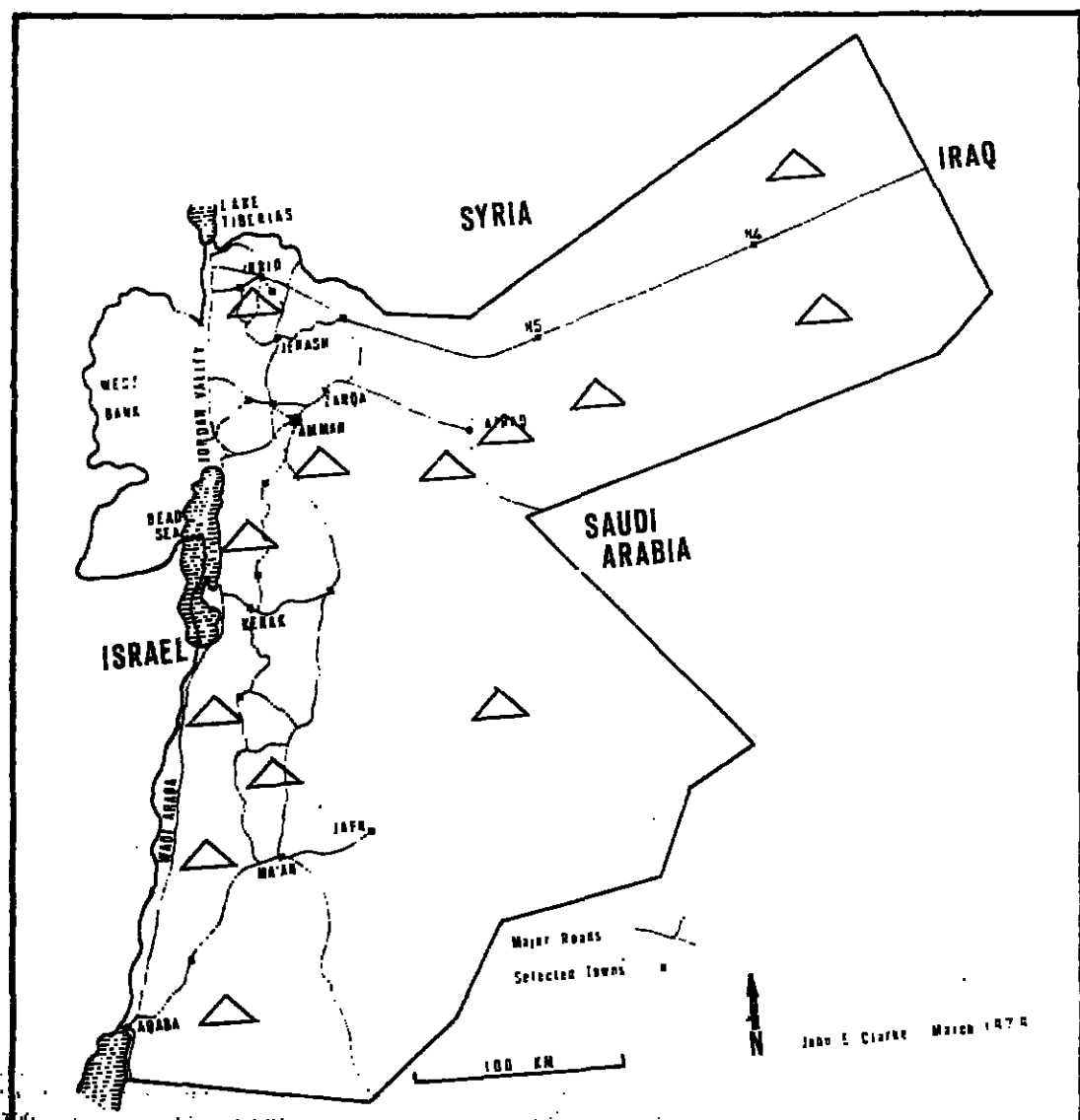
Once the parks are set up they will be populated with animals that are typical to their terrain. Jordan already has smaller (largely nocturnal) animals such as jirds, jerbils, cape hares, striped hyenas, wild cats, Ethiopian hedgehogs and the common red fox, and there would be little difficulty in them multiplying given the protection of a national park. For larger animals, however, careful breeding is required—as is presently being done at Shaumari.

The first stage of the breeding programme is for animals suited to Jordan's deserts: the Arabian oryx; the mountain dorcus and

goitred gazelles; the wild ass and the ostrich. The second stage of breeding will be of animals suited to non-desert regions, the fallow deer and ibex. Possibly, at a much later date, carnivores such as the wolf and cheetah may be bred in national parks.

At present, Shaumari has even Arabian oryx (three from the U.S. and four from Qatar) and a large number of gazelles. It is in the process of acquiring ostriches from America and wild asses from Iran.

If the national parks act is made into law, the Shaumari animals are going to be kept very busy multiplying in order to supply all the new areas waiting for their offspring.



A map of Jordan showing 13 possible sites (indicated by triangles) from which as many as 10 will be chosen as national parks if the conservation act becomes law.

## A step by step account of the events leading to Birzeit University's closure

Special to the Jordan Times

**FOLLOWING IS** a chronology of events leading up to the closure of Birzeit University by the Israeli military authorities. The university, along with Bethlehem University, was ordered closed on Thursday, May 3, following Palestinian demonstrations in the West Bank protesting against the Israeli settlement policy. On Wednesday, May 2, a student demonstrator at Birzeit was shot and seriously wounded by a Gush Emunim settler who was driving in a motorcade in the area with a group of settlers celebrating the 31st anniversary of the Zionist state. The shutdown of Birzeit University is the second time that the Israeli military authorities have closed the school this semester. The following text was prepared by officials of Birzeit University.

May 2, 1979, Israeli Independence Day:

8:00 a.m. The day began at

Birzeit University with classes in session as usual. Students from local schools began a peaceful march through the town, singing and carrying Palestinian flags.

9:30 a.m. Several private automobiles with yellow Israeli licence plates drove through the side streets of Birzeit near the university campus.

10:45 a.m. Two of these vehicles approached the women's dormitory area on a side road where a group of students were standing. A Birzeit University student, Ra'id Nakleh Daoud, was sitting waiting to see whether or not his 11 o'clock class would meet. As a volley of shots came from the direction of the cars, Ra'id and other students started running towards safer areas of campus.

Ra'id felt something hit him, looked down and found blood gushing out of his chest. He was then quickly transported to Ramallah Hospital, the bullet was removed surgically, and he was pronounced in good condition. A Security Services investigator interrogated Ra'id in the hospital.

11:00 a.m. Dr. Baramki, Birzeit University vice-president, tried to contact the military governor of Ramallah but was told by a secretary that he was off for the day.

11:05 a.m. Four private Israeli automobiles entered the town of Birzeit and stopped in the area where a group of students were standing. Armed Israeli civilians jumped out of their cars and started shooting at the students. The students then dispersed, but one foreign faculty member was pinned down at the side of a building as the Israelis continued shooting. He was shot at twice, but was not hit. Witnesses managed to record two licence plate numbers.

11:20 a.m. A contingent of about twelve soldiers joined the Israeli civilians and forced bystanders to remove roadblocks of piled stones erected earlier. After this, the civilians drove away.

11:30 a.m. Dr. Baramki received a telephone call from an Israeli officer who told him to keep the students inside the campus and to remove the three Palestinian flags raised there earlier

that morning.

12:00 Noon Soldiers on patrol circled the campus and a contingent posted itself outside the campus about 200 metres from the women's dormitory. They shot tear gas canisters as well as bullets at the students who were throwing stones near the women's dormitory.

12:15 p.m. A small group of soldiers at one entrance to the university insisted that Dr. Baramki remove the Palestinian flags within fifteen minutes.

1:10 p.m. Dr. Baramki was summoned to the Birzeit Post Office, where the assistant military governor ordered him to remove the flags. He was told that if this were done and if he calmed down the students they would be allowed to go home without interference.

1:20 p.m. Students in two buses on their way home were stopped at a checkpoint on the Birzeit-Ramallah road. Most identity papers were taken. Some students were allowed to continue on their way; the rest were returned to the university.

1:40 p.m. From the Birzeit mosque loudspeaker came the announcement that the women's dormitory area was under curfew.

2:10 p.m. A group of five soldiers headed by the assistant military governor marched through the campus, entered the women's dorm, and removed the flag from the roof. They proceeded to the snack bar where they forced a student to remove another flag. An ABC-TV Television cameraman filming this episode was forced to surrender his television camera. Meanwhile, university officials negotiated with the assistant military governor for temporary passes allowing students with identity papers confiscated earlier to pass through checkpoints. He allowed the university to arrange transport for all those remaining on campus.

3:00 p.m. Stones were thrown at soldiers patrolling the area outside the university courtyard. The soldiers retaliated by shooting bullets and hurling tear gas canisters and stones at the courtyard.

3:30 p.m. University officials speaking to the assistant military governor were told that because of the rock-throwing a curfew was being imposed on the campus.

4:00 p.m. Dr. Baramki went to the Birzeit Post Office to try to convince the military governor to allow the students to leave.

5:30 p.m. The military governor finally agreed to let the students and employees leave in buses after passing through a checkpoint in the town of Birzeit. There, the soldiers took identity papers from people at random, claiming that they had thrown stones. The last students left at 7:30 p.m. By day's end, 134 identity papers of Birzeit students (and some from local residents) had been confiscated by

the army, and the individuals were told to appear at the military governor's headquarters in Ramallah the next morning.

9:00 p.m. The military governor of Ramallah, Mr. Amos Trautman, summoned Dr. Baramki to inform him that Birzeit University was closed to all students until further notice.

May 3, 1979: 9:00 a.m. All those whose identity papers had been confiscated the previous day went to the military headquarters accompanied by university officials. After about two hours 72 students were given back their identity papers; sixty-two were detained for investigation. Meanwhile at Birzeit, policemen were posted at the uni-

versity entrance, and soldiers at a checkpoint prevented students from entering the town.

2:10 p.m. In Ramallah, several students and faculty members who had been waiting across the street from the military headquarters since 9:00 a.m. were ordered to leave immediately. As they were leaving, two faculty members were assaulted and one student, Michael Derrick, a U.S. citizen, was badly beaten with rifle butts and clubs by four soldiers. Having been told at Ramallah Hospital that a police request was necessary for a medical report, they were sent from one police officer to another until they finally contacted the military governor himself on the telephone. He refused to issue a report, saying, "Soldiers never do things unprovoked."

2:30 p.m. A group of high-ranking military officers, including Mr. Yigael Karmon, advisor to the military governor of the West Bank, and Mr. Amos Trautman, military governor of Ramallah, appeared unannounced at Birzeit University and presented Dr. Baramki with the attached military order. They proceeded to search and photograph various offices, classrooms, the dormitory, the snack bar and the library.

6:30 p.m. The students who had been kept at the military headquarters in Ramallah were released upon the guarantee of the university lawyer that they would return to the headquarters at 8:00 a.m. the next morning. During their detention, some girls were interrogated and pressured into signing confessions by threats of imprisonment and sexual abuse. As the students were being released, one of them, Ms. 'Atiya Mahmoud Al Tal was beaten severely.

7:30 p.m. Dr. Baramki met with Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, the military governor of the West Bank. The governor told him that he was not willing to reconsider his decision to close Birzeit University unless he was convinced by a representative body, such as the Student Council, that no further disturbances would occur.

## Fifty Bethlehem U.

### students under detention

**AMMAN, May 10 (J.T.)**—Fifty Arab students from Bethlehem University in the occupied West Bank have been under detention since May 4 on suspicion that they may have participated in last week's campus demonstrations protesting new Israeli settlements in the West Bank, Israel's self-rule plan and the separate Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

The lawyer representing the students, Mr. Abed Asali, told the Jerusalem Post that he had been allowed to visit only 14 of the detainees. He said he would take the case to the High Court of Justice if the Israeli occupation authorities continued to refuse to allow him to visit the rest of his clients.

Hundreds of students at the university were told by the Israeli authorities to report to police stations for questioning. Fifty are still being held, but no charge has been brought against them.

Both Bethlehem and Birzeit University were ordered to shut down last week following demonstrations by students. Bethlehem University was allowed to reopen on Monday but Birzeit is still closed. Arab students at Tel Aviv University demonstrated on Wednesday demanding the release of the detained students and the reopening of Birzeit University.

Meanwhile the Jalazoun refugee camp near Ramallah and the Ayda refugee camp near Bethlehem are under curfew, the Jerusalem Post added, after stones were thrown at Israeli vehicles.

In another development, Arab lawyers from Israel and the occupied territories are planning to appeal to the International Court of Justice in the Hague on the question of land expropriations by the Israeli authorities and the establishment of Jewish settlements in the West Bank, the Arab Jerusalem daily Al Sha'b reported Wednesday.



## Cologne suspends 2 star footballers

COLOGNE, West Germany, May 10 (R)—Cologne yesterday suspended two star players sent off during their 6-0 thrashing by Hamburg, the new West German Soccer League leaders, Tuesday night. Cologne, who won the championship and cup last season, dropped to seventh place in the league standings. Nottingham Forest knocked them out of the European Cup semifinals last month. Heinz Flohe and fellow international midfielder Herbert Neumann were both banned. Flohe was ordered off for a retaliatory foul and Neumann for arguing about the expulsion. Coach Hennes Weisweiler called their behaviour inexcusable, adding that they may have cost the club a UEFA Cup place next season.

It would be hard to put a team together for Saturday's league match against Bremen, he explained. Hamburg, who went one point clear of Stuttgart at the top, owed a good deal to English star Kevin Keegan, who scored twice.

## European Amateur Boxing Championships

COLOGNE, West Germany, May 10 (R)—Defending champion Victor Savchenko of the Soviet Union moved remorselessly into the light-middleweight semifinals at the European Amateur Boxing Championships here yesterday. Savchenko, world and European champion at his weight, pounded Romanian Vasile Gîrgaru into surrender in the first round of their quarter-final bout. The Russian, who has now dispatched two opponents in less than three minutes, meets defending silver-medallist Martin Intlekofer in the semifinals. Intlekofer, a West German, qualified yesterday by winning a split decision against Polish Olympic champion Jerzy Rybicki, whom he floored in the first round. There were two knockouts during the afternoon quarter-finals. East German Frank Kegebein put Dejan Kononov of Yugoslavia away in the second round of their flyweight quarter-final and Soviet super-heavyweight Kharen Indzhian hammered Andrzej Biegalski of Poland to a first round defeat.

## English Country Cricket Championship

LONDON, May 10 (R)—Geoff Boycott, eager to save his England batting place after the disappointment of losing the Yorkshire captaincy last winter, scored a masterly 151 not out in an English Country Cricket Championship against Derbyshire at



## Baseball Standings

American League					National League				
	W	L	Pct.	GB		W	L	Pct.	GB
<b>EAST</b>					<b>EAST</b>				
Boston	18	10	.643	—	Philadelphia	20	7	.741	—
Baltimore	19	11	.633	—	Montreal	18	8	.692	1½
Milwaukee	18	12	.600	1	St. Louis	14	13	.519	6
New York	15	14	.517	3½	Chicago	12	12	.500	6½
Detroit	11	13	.458	5	Pittsburgh	11	15	.420	8½
Cleveland	9	18	.333	8½	New York	9	17	.346	10½
Toronto	8	22	.267	11					
<b>WEST</b>					<b>WEST</b>				
Minnesota	20	8	.714	—	Houston	18	12	.600	—
California	17	13	.567	4	Cincinnati	17	12	.586	½
Kansas City	16	13	.552	4½	San Francisco	14	16	.467	4
Texas	15	13	.536	5	Los Angeles	14	18	.438	5
Chicago	13	15	.464	7	San Diego	12	19	.387	6½
Oakland	12	18	.400	9	Atlanta	9	19	.321	8
Seattle	10	21	.323	11½					

## Wednesday's games

Oakland 4, Baltimore 2  
Boston 9, California 8  
New York 5, Seattle 0  
Chicago 5, Detroit 4  
Cleveland 8, Milwaukee 7  
Toronto at Minnesota, postponed, rain

## Wednesday's games

Cincinnati 7, Chicago 4  
San Francisco 9, Montreal 2  
Pittsburgh 17, Atlanta 9  
Houston 5, St. Louis 4, 16 innings  
Philadelphia 2, San Diego 0  
Los Angeles 7, New York 2

## World Women's Basketball Championships

SEOUL, May 10 (AP)—With a dramatic final-second goal unbeaten Canada picked up a crucial 36-35 victory over Japan and Italy defeated France 72-54 yesterday in the final round of the eighth World Women's Basketball Championships. Sylvia Sweeney's field goal, which barely beat the final gun, prevented Japan from pulling a major upset against strongly favoured Canada in the seven-nation championship round. The United States' aggressive Japanese gave the Canadians their biggest score in the tournament so far, tying the score of leading 22 times in the close game. The last-minute drama started when Japan, leading 35-34, looked like it intended to keep the ball as long as possible to give Canada little time to recover. But the Japanese held it for long and captain Miho Matsuo violated the 30-second rule. The ball went to Canada with only eight seconds to go. After a time out, the Canadians started a fast play, passing the ball to Sweeney for the final-second goal. All the players jumped to their feet in celebration. Canada, gunning for its first championship, could not afford to lose the game. It has yet to play the United States and Australia. The second-place South Koreans, with a 3-1 record, have already met the Americans and Australians. Their only loss was to the Canadians. Japan has won one game and lost three. It still to play Italy and Australia. Canadian coach Don McCrae said, "Japan played very well. We had a great deal of difficulty in coping with Japan's full court press." Canada led Japan 25 to 14 rebounds but made 25 errors against Japan's 14. Italy and France, both previously winners and out of contention for the title, played a rather dull game. Italy now has a 2-2 record while France has lost all four of its games in the first round. In the day's consolation game, Bolivia beat Malaysia 55-47 for its first victory against one loss. Malaysia is 1-2. Today, France plays the host team, and the United States clashes with Australia.

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FAST FOR FRIDAY, MAY 11, 1979

## YOUR DAILY

# Horoscope

by Carroll Righter Institute

**TENDENCIES:** Today's planetary aspects desire its others to act in a rash and impulsive but proper analysis of what is likely to follow.

**Mar. 21 to Apr. 19:** You can accomplish a whole lot with restraint at this time. Make sure that your bookkeeping is straight.

**(Apr. 20 to May 20)** Something turns up that you come to a better understanding with a person. Follow the advice of experts.

**(May 21 to June 21)** Take care of personal affairs the day for best results. Steer clear of one mental to your progress.

**CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21)** Curb that desire for recreation and engage in creative work you fine benefits.

**22 to Aug. 21** Use tact at home with family. Planetary conditions are not right. Don't temper with anyone.

**Aug. 22 to Sept. 22** Take care you don't do anything that could cut down your present security ways to add to abundance.

**Sept. 23 to Oct. 22** Handle business matters. Lay so you will have more time for personal affairs needed health treatments.

**Oct. 23 to Nov. 21** You find that others open your wishes today, so take it easy and gain a week. Be tactful.

**Nov. 22 to Dec. 21** The private work can be most helpful in gaining your aims in weeks ahead.

**Dec. 22 to Jan. 20** Look to friends to gain a most cherished wish, but don't be your intuition guide you.

**Jan. 21 to Feb. 19** Take no risks what business or personal matters at this time. Be and accomplish more.

**Feb. 20 to Mar. 20** Study new outlets that you to express your finest talents and get more future. Express happiness.



**BONN**—A historical event is already casting its shadows. Next month, Belgians, Britons, Danes, French, Germans, Irish, Italians, Luxemburgers and Dutch will for the first time elect a joint parliament. One of the problems in the preparations for this election was the design of the ballot papers. In West Germany, which will provide 81 of the 410 MPs, the voting slips will be rather long. In North Rhine Westphalia, for example, where 15 parties and political groupings are fighting it out for votes and seats, the ballot paper is 63 centimetres long—it needs to be to accommodate the names, professions and addresses of the candidates. The German Post Office has set up an Europe Telephone to explain the significance and the procedures for the European election. (Dad photo)

## JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

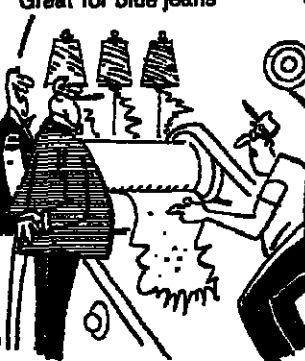
LOMOB

THONC

KALLIA

WOTOWK

Great for blue jeans



IT WILL SHORTLY BE MATERIAL.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: \_\_\_\_\_

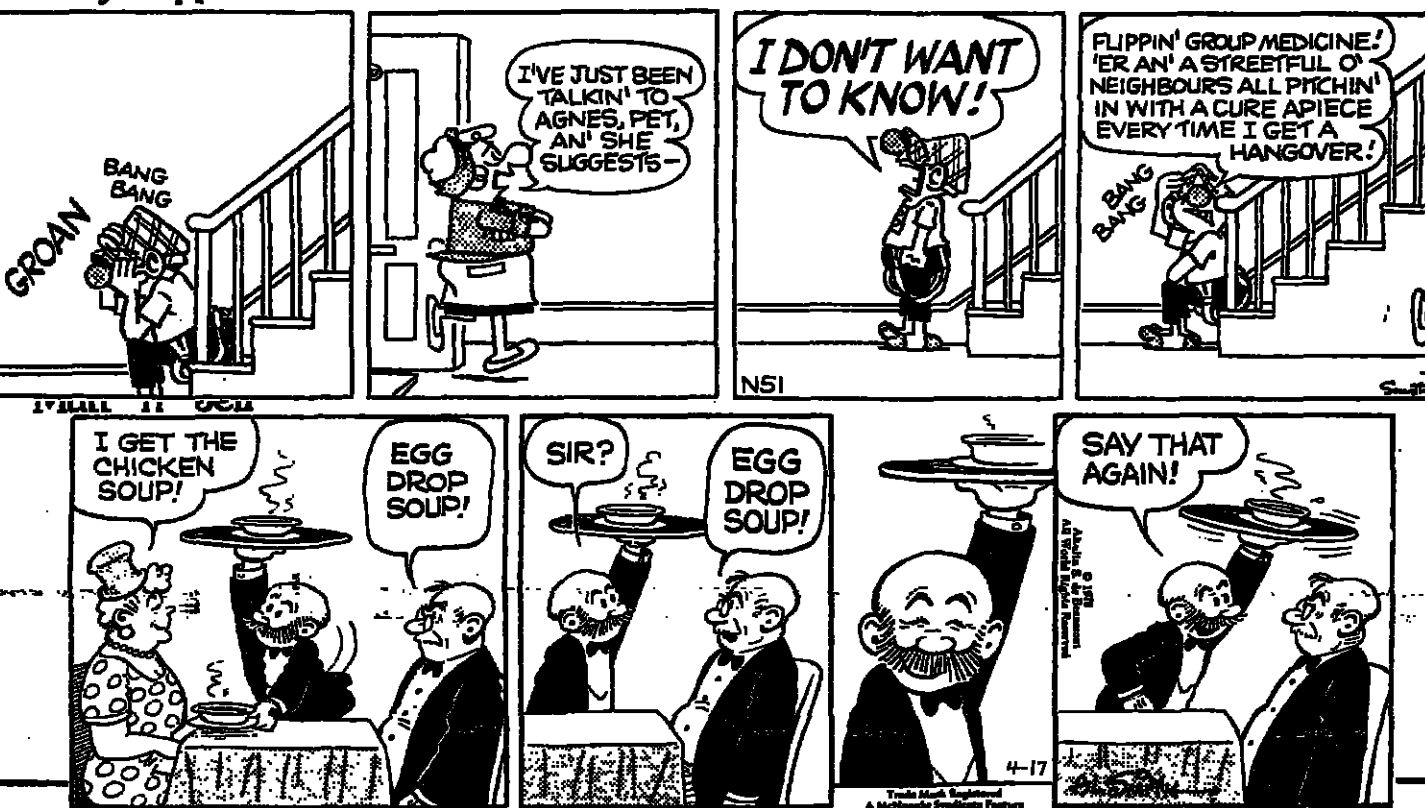
Yesterday's Jumbles: VENOM FIORD ALMOST PILLAR

Answer: How his girl friend soothed the gangster—SHE "MOLLIFIED" HIM

## Peanuts



## Andy Capp



## Flintstones



# JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

## BBC RADIO

04:00 Newdash	13:30 Radio Theatre
04:30 Letter from London; Play choice	14:15 Letterbox
04:45 Financial News; Reflections	14:30 Rhythm 'n' Roots
05:00 News; 24 Hours	15:00 Radio Newsworld
05:30 The Melody Lingers On	15:15 Outlook
05:45 World Today	16:00 News; Commentary
06:00 Newdash	16:15 Theatre Call
06:30 Life and Times of the Plains	16:35 New Ideas
07:00 News; 24 Hours	16:45 World Today
07:30 Star Turn	17:00 News; the Week in Wales
07:45 Merchant Navy	17:15 Music now
08:00 News; Reflections	17:45 Sports Round-up
09:00 News; Press Review	18:00 News; News about Britain
09:15 World Today	18:15 Radio Newsworld
09:30 Financial News	18:30 The English Chamber Orchestra
09:40 Look Ahead	19:30 Stock Market Report
09:45 Music Now	19:45 About Britain
10:15 Merchant Navy	19:50 News; 24 Hours
10:30 Discovery	20:30 Science in Action
11:00 News; News about Britain	21:00 Network U.K.
11:15 In the Moment	21:05 Sarah and Company
11:25 Ulster Newsletter	21:45 Letter from London; Play Choice
11:30 Anything Goes	22:00 News; World Today
12:00 Radio Newsworld	22:15 Financial News
12:15 Grey's World of Ballet	22:35 The Week in Wales; Reflections
12:45 Sports Round-up	22:45 Sports Round-up
13:00 News; 24 Hours	23:00 News; Commentary

## VOICE OF AMERICA

04:30 The Brightest Show	19:00 News Roundup; reports, opinion, analysis.
05:30 News; pop music, features, interviews, questions.	19:30 VOA Magazine; American, science, culture, letters.
17:00 News Roundup; reports, opinion, analysis.	20:00 Special English; news, culture, letters.
17:30 Dialtone	20:15 Music USA (Jazz)
18:00 Special English; news, culture, letters.	21:00 VOA World Report
18:30 Country Music USA	22:00 News; Commentary; reports, background, culture, music.

## JORDAN TELEVISION

09:00 News	21:00 Arabic series
10:00 Cinema	22:15 Western Medical
10:15 Cinema	23:00 News in Arabic
10:30 Religious programme	23:15 Bluesy
11:30 Cinema	23:30 News in Arabic
14:30 Cultural film (Alaska)	18:30 French programme
14:30 Cinema	19:00 News in French
15:25 Arabic musical comedy	19:30 News in Hebrew
17:00 Soccer	20:30 Comedy
17:45 Wild west	21:15 The Brothers
18:30 Arabic programme	22:00 News in English
19:30 Religious seminar	22:15 Western Medical
20:00 News in Arabic	23:15 Bluesy
20:30 Repertoire	

## RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Sign on	14:30 French Music
7:01 Morning show	15:00 Concert hour
7:30 News Bulletin	16:00 News summary
7:40 Morning show	16:30 Pedagogical pop
10:00 News Headlines	16:30 Old favourites
10:01 Morning show	17:00 Jordan Weekly
10:30 My Kind of Music	17:30 Radiotheatre
11:00 Literary choice	18:00 News summary
12:00 News headlines	18:01 Faces and Places
12:01 News summary	18:30 Stars unlimited
12:30 Radiotheatre	19:00 News bulletin
13:00 News Summary	19:10 Music
13:01 Radiotheatre	19:30 Sign off
14:00 News Bulletin	
14:10 Music	

## AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS:	DEPARTURES:
7:50 Cairo (EA)	7:00 Aqaba
7:55 Doha, Kuwait	7:30 Damascus, London (BA)
8:45 Aqaba	7:45 Beirut
9:30 Jeddah	8:45 Beirut (MEA)
10:00 Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJOF)	8:55 Cairo (EA)
11:15 Beirut	11:30 Frankfurt
12:05 Kuwait (KAC)	12:00 London
12:35 Tripoli, Benghazi (LN)	12:30 Athens, Copenhagen
13:30 Jeddah, Medina (SDI)	13:00 Kuwait (KAC)
15:30 New York	13:30 Baghdad, Tripoli (LN)
17:30 Vienna, London	14:45 Medina, Jeddah (SDI)
17:50 Cairo (EA)	17:00 Damascus
18:35 Beirut, Paris (AF)	18:55 Cairo (EA)
18:45 Madrid, Athens	20:00 Cairo
19:00 Paris	20:00 Dubai, Karachi (RJOF)
19:15 Damascus	21:15 Kuwait
19:40 Beirut (MEA)	
21:50 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (LH)	
01:30 Cairo	

## EMERGENCIES

Doctors:	Shubait (21699)
Amman:	Nasser (25791)
Abdullah Qader Lala (50046)	
Tharhan Nasser (50596)	
Zayez	
Muhammad Amari (52680)	
Irish:	
Lawyer Al Shubait (2624)	
Pharmacies:	
Al Rashid (22023)	
Al Hishm (24 km. 36571)	

## THE Daily Crossword by Steve Sanford

ACROSS	31 "A man — mouse?"	52 Title	21 "Go — egg"
1 Devastation	32 Fates	53 Oil cartel	25 Visitor to
10 Blind as —	34 Small	58 Got into	26 — yourself
14 Chemical	38 picture	61 Ancient	27 Sea bird
15 Son of Adam	39 Between	62 Diva's	28 Domino or
16 Hautboy	41 Electric	63 number	29 Spring bolt
17 Fiend	42 Neckpiece	64 Concern	30 Continent
18 Notched	43 Enzyme	65 Fragrant	33 Damsel
condition	44 Stow (away)	66 Over there	35 Rebuff
20 Economist's	46 Goes to	68 Beverages	36 Different
concern	48 Gretna	69 namesakes	37 Nautical
22 Curve	49 Requite	DOWN	38 Martineff
23 Susa's	51 At variance	1 Sibyllent	40 Ear: Sp.
land	with	2 Amos	45 Llama's
24 "Of Honey"		3 "La Dolce"	47 Robin's
25 Reimburses		4 Catapult	48 Attempt
29 School		5 Fire	49 Part of TNT
subject		6 Home of the	50 Prepare for
		7 Borscht	51 Mountain
		8 Bell town	54 And others:
		9 Choke point	abbr.
		10 Jack or	55 Part of
		crack	a beak
		11 Off-Broad-	56 Unique
		way awards	person
		12 Resting place	57 Child, in
		13 On edge	58 Aptitude
		19 Economic	tests, for
		phrase	short
			60 Traipse

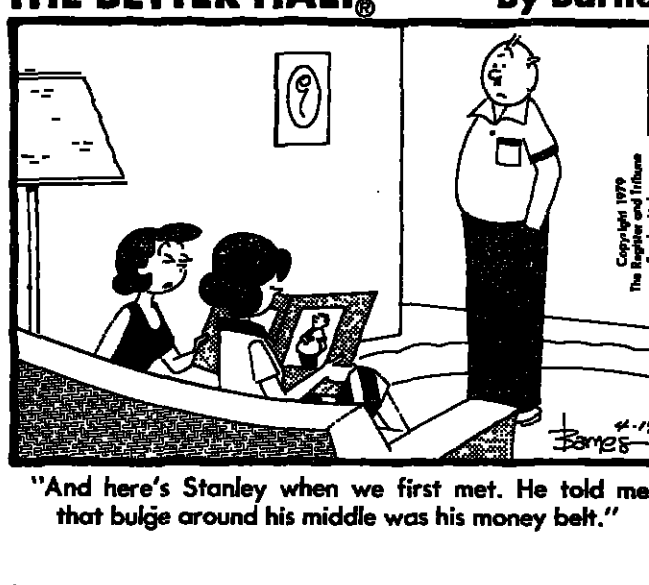
ACROSS	DOWN
1 Devastation	1 Sibyllent
10 Blind as —	2 Amos
14 Chemical	3 "La Dolce"
15 Son of Adam	4 Catapult
16 Hautboy	5 Fire
17 Fiend	6 Home of the
18 Notched	7 Borscht
condition	8 Bell town
20 Economist's	9 Choke point
concern	10 Jack or
22 Curve	crack
23 Susa's	11 Off-Broad-
land	way awards
24 "Of Honey"	12 Resting place
25 Reimburses	13 On edge
29 School	19 Economic
subject	phrase

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Devastation	1 Sibyllent
10 Blind as —	2 Amos
14 Chemical	3 "La Dolce"
15 Son of Adam	4 Catapult
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25 Reimburses	13 On edge
29 School	19 Economic
subject	phrase

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## THE BETTER HALF By Barnes



"And here's Stanley when we first met. He told me that bulge around his middle was his money belt."

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Amman)

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 75111
Civil defence rescue	24390-4
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	36365-2
Municipal water service (emergency)	37111-3
Police headquarters	39141
Najdah roving patrol rescue police (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency	21111, 37777
Airport information (ALIA)	55205
Jordan Television	73111
Radio, English Section	74124
Fire, fire, police	19
Fire headquarters	25000

## CULTURAL CENTRES (Damascus)

Al Hama Theatre	Tel. 326-448
Al Sherb Art Gallery	236-527
Assaf Centre	552-362
Arab Cultural Centre	335-727
Belgian Cultural Centre	555-901
British Cultural Centre	335-994
Deutscher Demokratischer Kultur-Zentrum	333-932
French Cultural Centre	330-694
Kalbid Theatre	222-016
National Museum	114-834
Soviet Cultural Centre	225-650
Spanish Cultural Centre	334-003
Ugandan Cultural Centre	334-619
Zaharaya Public Library	111-318
West German Cultural Institute	224-954

## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS (Damascus)

Ambulance (government)	Tel. 90
Chamber of Commerce	118-339
Electric Power Co. (repair)	223-887
Fire headquarters	91
Information	9597
Municipal water service	112-500

## RESTAURANT & ABOUT

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Restaurant in Amman, near the Ahi-Tel. 38968. 11 p.m. to 3 a.m. and service-order by	Jabal Amman First Circle Tel 21083. Jabel Hussein behind Jerusalem Cinema Tel. 21781. Jabel Lunsdale House Circle Tel. 30546. Zanga Cinema Near Street Tel. 32111. Jbel Baghdad Street Tel. 2468. Nasser opposite the municipality Tel. 26. Madhat King Abdullah Street Tel. 180. Matra Tel. 194. KERAK Jeddah opposite Ajloun crossed. Switish.

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## IF SOMETHING ON YOUR MIND?

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# UNCTAD meet begins 'battle' on protectionism

MANILA, May 10 (R)—Rich and poor countries yesterday drew clear battle lines in the fight over protectionism at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

As delegates split up into eight negotiating teams for talks behind closed doors, West Germany warned the "have nots" that unfair criticism would not be accepted.

West German Economy Minister Otto Lambsdorff said that inaccurate and offensive attacks from developing countries made it more difficult for the industrialised nations to justify aid spending to their voters.

It was clear from speeches that, while the European nations thought progress had been made in trade regulations to help developing countries, the Third World felt disappointed and believed much more could be done.

Already lined up on the industrialised side were West Germany, France, Britain and Canada, facing the opposition of practically every speaker so far, including Australia and New Zealand.

The two major industrial powers, the United States and Japan, and the Soviet bloc have yet to state their position.

Count Lambsdorff fired at

broadside at the communist nations, saying they had a far worse record on protectionism and aid than those countries bearing the brunt of the Third World's criticism.

He rejected allegations that the industrialised nations were keeping out manufactured goods from developing countries.

From 1970 to 1977, Count Lambsdorff said, imports to the 24 members of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) from the developing world increased by 385 per cent, while OECD's internal trade rose by 201 per cent.

Pleading for moderation in the talks here, Count Lambsdorff said: "Criticism is legitimate and it is needed, and we are no more sensitive than other nations. But we will not accept criticism if it is incorrect in substance and, beyond that, is expressed in an offensive way."

Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser said that rising protectionist pressures might jeopardise future growth in the Third World.

He called on the major industrialised nations to bring inflation under control, in their own interests as well as those of the world.

Qatar accused trans-nation

corporations of "sucking the blood" of developing countries by manipulating oil distribution and controlling international shipping.

It urged the meeting to help break this monopoly and help the Third World establish its own merchant fleet—one of the items on the agenda for negotiation.

The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) warned the month-long conference that the world could not go on buying oil from them.

OPEC Secretary-General Rene Ortiz said member countries were consuming more themselves and there was an urgent need to develop alternative energy sources.

## NATO: SALT 2 will force nuclear reassessment

BRUSSELS, May 10 (R)—The SALT II agreement between the United States and the Soviet Union limiting strategic arms will force European NATO allies to reassess their own nuclear security. Western alliance sources have said.

Europeans watched the second round of strategic arms limitation talks from the side lines but they will be more directly concerned in future SALT II negotiations. The third round will cover nuclear

arms positioned in Europe.

West European countries generally support SALT II as a stabilising factor in East-West relations. But they harbour some misgivings about the accord's implications for their security, the sources said.

Western Europe's main worry is that parity between the two superpowers in strategic intercontinental arms might shift the competition to shorter-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

This parity is seen as having a neutralising effect on both sides, leaving conventional or medium-range nuclear forces as a possible field of confrontation, the sources said.

NATO's tactical nuclear forces atomic weapons with the range of heavy artillery — are comparable or superior to the Soviet bloc's, but the Western alliance has fallen behind in medium or intermediate range nuclear weapons.

Western Europe is especially concerned about new Soviet arms capable of hitting any target from northern Britain to Sicily — the three-headed mobile SS-20 missile and the long-range Tupolev 26 bomber known as the Backfire.

The 30-year-old Western alliance faces the dilemma of how to negotiate a curb on these weapons with Moscow when it has little to offer as a possible trade-off in SALT II bargaining.

One approach would be to offer

Moscow a commitment not to develop and deploy similar weapons in exchange for dismantling the SS-20s or limiting their deployment.

A special NATO group was set up last month to explore the arms control aspect of this question. But the sources said that such an offer was unlikely to be taken seriously by the Soviet Union.

They recalled the case of the controversial neutron bomb, a tactical nuclear weapon designed to kill tank crews while leaving surrounding buildings relatively unscathed.

## Power from the waves

LONDON—Britain, among the leading nations in wave energy research, is to provide a generator powered by the waves for an international research programme. Here a technician sets up the blades of the air turbine for the special generator unit now nearing completion. The generator is claimed to be first of its kind and will be used in research into wave energy under the auspices of the International Energy Agency. Published figures have indicated that a significant proportion of Britain's electricity could be generated from waves early in the next century. This would call for a large number of offshore units, some of which might use air turbines. (COI photo)

## World News Briefs

### Khomeini: U.S. agents behind assassinations

PARIS, May 10 (R)—Iran's revolutionary religious leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, has accused American agents of being behind the recent assassinations of two leading Iranians, the Paris newspaper Le Monde reported yesterday. Ayatollah Khomeini said in an interview, with Le Monde: "I accuse American agents of having engineered the assassination of General (Mohammad Vahid) Gharani and that of Ayatollah (Mortaza) Motahari. They are the same agents who served behind the Shah and who are today hiding behind the name Forqan, a pseudo-religious organisation." The Forqan guerrilla group has claimed responsibility for the killing of General Gharani on April 23 and the assassination of Ayatollah Motahari on May 1.

### Chairman Hua may tour Europe in October

LONDON, May 10 (R)—China's Chairman Hua Guofeng will probably make his first visit to the West with a major European tour next October, informed British sources said today. They said plans for the Chairman to visit Britain in October were now under consideration and France and West Germany would probably be on his itinerary. The trip is seen as an important move in Peking's anti-Soviet strategy, providing China with a highly-publicised platform to preach its warning about the dangers of Kremlin expansionism. Last year Chairman Hua angered Moscow by visiting Romania and Yugoslavia. Mr. Hua took over as leader of the world's most populous nation after Mao Tse-tung's death in 1976. A European tour has been expected since last year. The formal invitation for him to visit London came from former prime minister James Callaghan last October. Britain's new prime minister, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher, travelled to China in 1977. Her warnings about Soviet militarism and pledges to strengthen British defences have pleased the Chinese.

### Libya urges boycott by Arab oil producers

KUWAIT, May 10 (R)—The oil minister of the Libyan Jamahiriya yesterday called on Arab countries not to supply crude oil to industrialised nations which refused to buy refined petroleum products from the Arabs. Mr. Ezzeddin Mabrouk accused the industrialised countries, particularly member states of the European Economic Community (EEC), of trying to restrict talks with the Arab oil producers on oil and energy. Speaking to reporters after the morning session of a one-day conference of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), Mr. Mabrouk said: "The industrialised countries which refuse to import Arab oil products should not be supplied with Arab oil. We can compel importers of crude oil to buy some Arab refined products."

### Belgium, Zaire sign education agreements

BRUSSELS, Belgium, May 10 (AP)—Belgium and its former colony, Zaire, have signed a number of education agreements providing for the exchange of a total of 500 Belgian educators against 55 university grants for Zairian students to study in Belgium. The agreements were announced today and cover the academic year 1979-1980. Under the agreements, Belgium will send to Zaire later this year high school teachers, technical and vocational education instructors, university professors as well as guest lecturers.

### U.K. to discuss SALT 2 during Vance visit

LONDON, May 10 (AP)—The new Conservative government said today it hopes to discuss all aspects of the U.S.-Soviet agreement on a new Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty with Mr. Cyrus Vance when the secretary of state visits here May 21-22. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has indicated wariness in the past over the SALT II treaty, fearing it may give too many advantages to the Soviets over the West. A Foreign Office statement said: "The British Government is glad that progress on SALT II has gone far enough to permit the long-awaited summit meeting to take place and we welcome the settlement of major outstanding issues. The government will study the final text of the agreement when it is available and its implications. There will of course be an opportunity to discuss all aspects of the new agreement with the Americans, especially during the forthcoming visit of Secretary Vance to London."

## French communists 'soften' earlier criticism of USSR

PARIS, May 10 (R)—The French Communist Party, which traditionally represents about one-fifth of the electorate, widened its breach with its former socialist allies yesterday and softened earlier harsh criticism of the Soviet Union. Party Secretary General Georges Marchais, in a four-hour

speech to the party's National Congress, accused Socialist Party leaders of "masking their right-wing politics with left-wing or ultra-left-wing talk."

The combined socialist-communist opposition failed to win a general election in March 1978, a blow which virtually shattered their already tottering six-year-old alliance.

While either party has completely excluded a new left-wing union to fight the presidential election due in two years' time, Mr. Marchais' harsh words at yesterday's opening session of the Congress appeared to close the door on any rapprochement in the near future.

At the same time, Mr. Marchais, whose speech summarised the major resolutions before the five-day meeting, moderated the party's criticism of the Soviet Union and other communist states.

Mr. Marchais said there had been no events in communist countries which matched the atrocities committed under right-wing rule in Chile, South Africa, Uruguay, South Korea and Argentina.

But this "obviously does not make us forget the crimes which plunged the history of socialism into gloom during the period of Stalin nor the grave and serious gaps in socialist countries between reality and what socialist democracy could and should be here and now," he said.

The French party's last congress in 1976 condemned Stalinism, Mr. Marchais said, and "We reaffirm that it is our right and our duty to express publicly our disapproval of attacks on liberties, which clearly show that sequels of this (Soviet) past still exist."

But the French communist chief's reference to present day events in the Soviet Union were less harsh and less specific than those he made three years ago.

The party's 1976 criticism of Moscow seemed at the time to be aimed at appearing the socialists—a trend which has now been partially reversed.

FINANCIAL TIMES  
NEWS-FEATURES

## Deng speaks out on SALT, Vietnam relations

### China to sign trade pacts with U.S.

PEKING, May 10 (AP)—Deputy Premier Deng Xiaoping said today China will sign the claims-assets settlement and initial the Sino-American trade agreement before U.S. Commerce Secretary Juanita Kreps leaves China next Tuesday.

Mr. Deng also said the United States should not rely on a SALT treaty to restrain the Soviet Union.

Mr. Deng also told reporters

that China's readjustment of its economic policy would not adversely affect U.S.-China trade. "We will not change our policy of importing foreign advanced technology and foreign capital," he said.

On the SALT agreement, Mr. Deng said, "We are not against this agreement, not against the negotiations, but we think you should not put your trust blindly in such agreement. Not only this, but

all other agreements will not serve to restrain the expansionism of the Soviet Union."

Mr. Deng referred to China's "limited punitive action against Vietnam" and said, "If Vietnam continues to make provocation along the border, we reserve the right to continue to give them punishment."

On the economy, Mr. Deng said: "We do not have electric power and if you want to build factories, how do you operate them without power? If we don't improve transportation, how can we expand? So through this readjustment we are trying to speed up the pace of our development, not to slow it down."

unit stationed in sensitive Jammu border of the Indian-held Kashmir, the newspaper said.

Indian and Pakistani troops guard a line of control established in 1949 which runs through Jammu and Kashmir State. India's possession of the state is disputed by Pakistan, which controls one-third of it.

The newspaper quoted Indian defence sources as saying the Pakistani diplomat, whom it did not name, had received information about the location of border units and armaments as well as maps and contingency plans.

Deputy Prime Minister Jagjivan Ram confirmed in parliament Tuesday that several Indian army personnel were facing court martial proceedings, but declined to give further details.

## Ecevit: Problems in Turkey provide 'fertile ground' for political violence

PARIS, May 10 (R)—Turkish Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit said in an interview published yesterday that his country's economic and social problems provided fertile ground for political violence.

Mr. Ecevit told the French evening newspaper Le Monde that a recent extension of martial law in Turkey from 13 to 19 provinces was essentially a preventive measure.

Asked what were the motives of the guerrillas, who have caused the loss of more than 1,000 lives in

recent years, the Turkish premier said: "The economic and social problems which we are experiencing obviously provide them with fertile ground."

"With an annual inflation rate of 50 per cent and an unemployment rate of 20 per cent, what country would be beyond the reach of terrorism?" Mr. Ecevit asked.

He added that his government attached great importance to the unity of Iran, saying that events in the neighbouring country could

cause new disturbances.

Mr. Ecevit said there was foreign interference in his country's affairs. "There's no doubt about that," he said. "But that doesn't explain everything. If Turkey's society was in good health, the external danger would not be great."

In reality, the Turkish people are very attached to democracy; the terrorists are very isolated ... that explains why, after 12 years of rampant terrorism, Turkey remains a democracy," Mr. Ecevit told Le Monde.

# A look inside an Omani oasis

By Barbara Casassus

MUSCAT—"Why do you have a car?" "Why do you leave your husband 160 kilometres away?" "Why do you keep writing things down?"

These were the sort of questions bombarded in friendly rather than hostile curiosity at ethnologist Colette Le Cour Grandmaison when she abandoned the comforts of her home in France for a mud house deep inside the Sultanate of Oman, devoid of running water or electricity.

Occupying the south-eastern corner of the Arabian peninsula, the Sultanate of Oman is claimed to be one of the hottest places on earth. Not surprisingly, Colette opted for the cooler winter months—five in 1976-77 and three in 1977-78—to take up residence in Ibra, an oasis 160 kilometres south of Muscat in the heart of the Sharqiya region.

Her object was to study the tribe of Al-Harthi Arabs that led the opposition to the previous Sultan of Oman for over half a century.

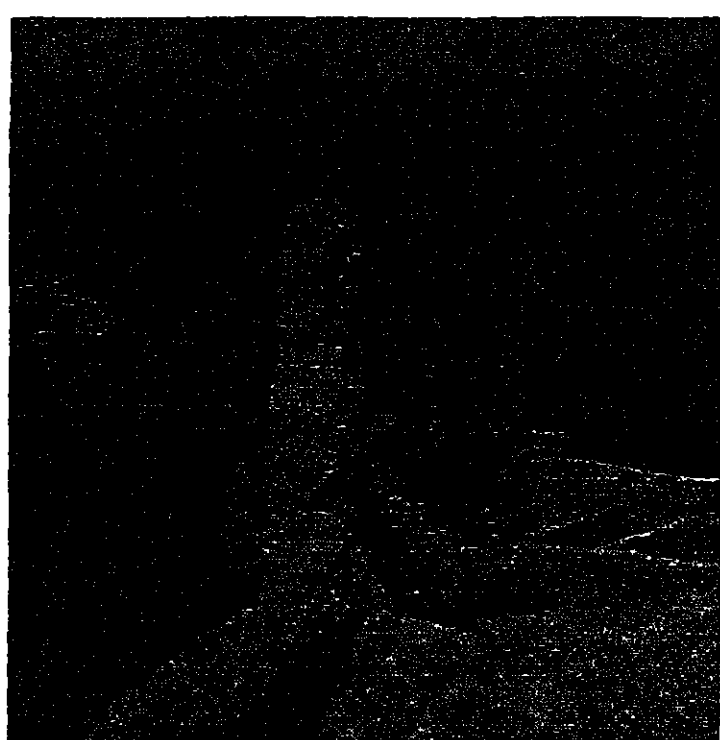
Prompted by the dearth of documented information about the Al-Harthi, Colette decided to explore their socio-political organisation, the composition of their tribal sub-groups and their religious, economic and political roles, especially as they were among the first to settle in Oman's former East African colonies.

But getting started was rather more complicated than simply packing bags and making the four

and a half hour bone-rattling journey by Land-Rover along the unsurfaced road to Muscat (which takes less than two hours now the tarmac road is finished). A full 18 months elapsed before the government granted Colette permission to live in the "interior", the term used to describe any part of Oman outside the "capital area", i.e. Muscat and its environs. And then it was only to work part-time in the Ibra hospital while living at the nearby contractor's camp.

But the experience was useful, as it taught her basic nursing skills, such as giving injections and treating minor wounds and introduced her to people who were neighbours when she set up home later on in the village. After two months at the camp, home became a mud house, consisting of the mandatory courtyard where visitors are entertained sitting on rush mats, two small bedrooms leading to a verandah, plus a third room that served as a rudimentary kitchen. The rent was £60 a month, which was high considering the complete lack of modern amenities, though it did include the luxury of a private water well.

Initially, Colette's Arabic was confined to the relatively extensive range of compulsory greetings, so she enlisted the help of one of the hospital laboratory technicians and a young villager, who acted as interpreter-cum-chaperone (though he was young enough to be her son). She chose to be known by the



Palm trees are the mainstay of agriculture in the Omani oases

Arabic name Mariam, instead of the puzzling term Colette, and soon became immersed in a busy daily routine, consisting of ferrying villagers to and from the hospital, collecting medicines and treating minor ailments in the mornings, and interviewing in the afternoons.

The social life was also hectic as there was a constant stream of visitors to the house—invariably uninvited as is the custom among the hospitable Arabs.

The women often came alone, but the men were never in other than pairs as a mark of respect. Children frequently popped in during the evening to see what she was up to. The answer was likely to be fighting a losing battle against time, as it was always difficult to find the hour each evening needed for sorting out notes gathered that day.

Colette rarely ate in solitude. Nearly every day she was invited

to lunch by a neighbour; often to dinner as well. She realised that she was accepted as a member of the community when these meals became family affairs with the women present, instead of their being banished to the kitchen to eat the copious remains, as on formal occasions.

The menu comprised coffee laced with cardamom, followed by a mountainous dish of rice with fish (often shark) and vegetables in a sauce highly seasoned with cumin, cloves and other spices. Meat is reserved for feast days when the great delicacy is goat.

Certainly Colette never had the chance to be lonely, but inevitably during her eight months in Ibra she experienced a strong feeling of isolation. This was relieved only by weekend visits from her husband, then adviser to the government's Development Council, occasional visits from her two adult children and weekly working sessions with another ethnologist conducting research in a village 25 kilometres away.

As this colleague happened to be male, neighbours in both settlements made it abundantly clear that visits to each other's houses were not in order—such are the strict social controls exerted in societies where peoples' lives and morals are the concern of the community and not the individual.

Colette has studied traditions and lifestyles in five countries—Senegal, Madagascar, Ivory Coast, Mexico and now Oman. A Ph.D. holder, she has taught at the universities of Paris and the Ivory

The Sultanate of Oman is one of the hottest places on earth. A French ethnologist, Colette Le Cour Grandmaison, took on life in a mud house there to learn more about the proud Omani Arabs who carve out a life in the desert.

Coast, has collaborated on two books on Africa, one with her husband on Oman, and has written numerous articles and a bibliography on Oman.

One of her most vivid impressions of Ibra was how it has remained a haven of traditional Islamic and Arab values, despite the mobility of the people. Many are migrants from the former African colonies and some live and work in Muscat, with all the trappings of the 20th century, returning regularly to see their families and to an existence that has scarcely altered since the Middle Ages.

"The depth of their culture has acted as a barrier to the forces of change generated by the flow of petrodollars," she said. "Their society has an internal cohesion, supported by the closely knit family unit."

Central to social organisation are the complex rights applying to the Falaj water system, introduced by the Persians centuries ago and consisting of shallow above ground channels which conduct the water from mountain sources. In fact it is much more complicated than that: in Ibra alone

there are 12 different types of network, each with its own rules and management.

Contrary to popular belief, Colette discovered that they are by no means run on egalitarian principles. The "haves" have free access to a place on the water list, mostly inherited from wealthy ancestors who traded with East Africa, while the "have nots" pay for their supply. The latter are often former slaves or long-standing migrants from ex-colonies such as Baluchistan, and the payments serve as a local tax for Falaj maintenance and other facilities.

These intricate water systems form the lifeblood of the community as they irrigate the date gardens—the main source of income—and provide the bulk of the domestic water supply. They have indeed been effective in keeping outside influence at bay and "newcomers" forever at the fringe of the community, but it can be only a matter of time before at least some of the traditions are swept away by the rush of modernisation.